

LITERARY GPS

JUST PULL



TO, TOO, TWO

What's the big difference?



- TO** To indicates a destination is coming or approaching, a place. "I'm going to the store."
- TOO** In addition to, also. "I want to go to the store, too."
- TWO** A number of a greater value than the number one but not bigger than three. "Can the two of us go to the store?"

RATHER/ WHETHER/WEATHER



None of these are interchangeable!

RATHER Rather indicates a preference. "I would rather have potatoes than peas."

WHETHER Whether poses an alternative to a question. "Whether you make peas or not, I still want potatoes."

WEATHER Weather is the climate. Has to do with the season. "It's the perfect weather to grow potatoes."

DONE VS THEN

Slang says they're the same...they're not!



DONE Done could mean something is cooked. It could mean something is completed. Something no longer exists. "I'm done with this relationship." "I'm done with my homework." "The food is done."

THEN Then means after or a specific point in time. "We ate and then I came home." I thought about being done with this relationship, then I changed my mind.

COURSE VS COARSE



One's a texture...the other...isn't

COURSE Course has many different meanings. Direction, a meal, school/class/lessons. "We are on the correct course." "For our next course, we'll be studying Science." "This is a full course meal."

COARSE Coarse is a texture, rough in nature. "My hair is coarse."

LAY VS LIE

Multiple meanings, and neither are the same



LAY Lay. You can lay something down. Lay requires a direct object. "I'm laying these cards right here." (P(LAY)CE)

COARSE Lie. You can lie in something. Lie doesn't require a direct object. "I like to lie in bed while watching TV." (REC(LI)NE). Of course, we know to tell an untruth is also a lie.

POV FIRST VS THIRD

They, Me, My, Them, We, Us



FIRST PERSON

First person is in that person's perspective. You speak in first person everyday. Can only be told from this person's point of view, knowledge, and sight. "I would like to go out." I walked outside." You're telling the story.

THIRD PERSON

Third person involves a narrator or someone else telling the story. It shows the entire scene/story vs what only one person/character can see. Words often used: Them, They, he, she.

PUNCTUATION

Period, Question Mark, Exclamation....



PERIOD A direct statement. Something you can walk away from. "I'm going to school at six."

QUESTION MARK Questions. Inquisition. "Should I go to school today?"

EXCLAMATION MARK Shows excitement an escalation of emotion. "Shut the fuck up!"

EFFECT VS AFFECT

Even I get confused sometimes...



AFFECT To make a change, to impact some. "I'm affected by this, too."

EFFECT The result of something. "The effects of the pandemic have been catastrophic." Remember, cause and EFFECT. There has to be a cause.

MINES VS MINE

This one is SERIOUS!



MINES Are holes in the earth meant to provide materials, jewels, and resources for the earth. *MINES* doesn't exist as it pertains to possession. "My grandfather worked in the mines."

MINE To belong to something or someone. "Those skates are mine!" "I'll take some of yours, and you can have some of mine."

TRANSITIONING

Fluidity vs Abrupt Stops



FLUIDITY Transitioning from sentence to sentence should be seamless. Fluid.
"After we made love, I went to get me a snack. I couldn't end the night without restoring my nourishment, so the snack was a must."

ABRUPT STOPS "After we made love, I went to get me a snack." This is not the way a chapter should end. It's abruptly stopping and leaves the reader longing for more explanation/detail/depth.

COMMA RULES

But they don't exactly rule



SERIES ITEMS

A series is a group of three or more items serving the same purpose in a sentence. Use a comma to separate each item/phrase. "For lunch, I had two pears, an apple, some strawberries, and cottage cheese."

APPOSITIVES

An appositive is a noun phrase that renames a nearby noun. Use a comma in between these two phrases. "Tabitha, the CEO of Literary GPS, is coming over today." Ceo(np) describes Tabitha(n).

COMMA RULES

But they don't exactly rule



DRAMA/DIRECT ADDRESS

Use a comma when addressing someone directly, dramatically.
"Tabitha, you've got me beat." "You know, I could kill you right now."

DIALOG TAGS

A dialog tag is the way you close out a sentence or open one using direct quotes/dialog. "Don't you ever talk like that to me again," Tabitha said. I looked over at her and questioned, "Do you really hate me?"

COMMA RULES

But they don't exactly rule



DATES The year will ALWAYS be set off from the month and day. I was born on August 24th, 1991.

ADDRESS The Street, city and state, and zip code should be separate. "My address is 1919 Washington Street, Detroit, Michigan, 55555."

COMMA RULES

But they don't exactly rule



INDEPENDENT CLAUSES

Use a comma before a coordinating conjunction, WHEN it brings together two sentences that could stand on their own without the conjunction. "I'm watching Starlight, and then I'm going to wash dishes. Without and(conjunction) it can stand alone.

INTRO CLAUSE

Use a comma in between the close of an intro leading into the sentence. "When I stop to think about it, I realize I'd like to murder him." The intro normally cannot stand on its own, but the latter portion can.

RUN ON SENTENCES



You gots to punctuate

**RUN ON
SENTENCE**

Typically, run on sentences have no separation and are complete sentences. "I wish I could got to the mall with friends I think it would be fun my mama said I can't go though."

**NON-RUN
ON
SENTENCE**

"I wish I could go to the mall with my friends. I think it would be fun, but my mama said I can't go though."

SENTENCE STRUCTURE

Which sentence do I use, or am I using?



SIMPLE SENTENCE

It's exactly what it sounds like. A simple sentence has one independent clause, which means it's one sentence that can stand on its own. It has a subject, a verb, and one complete thought. "I've never read a book like that."

COMPOUN D SENTENCE

Compound. Think of combine. A compound sentence brings two independent clauses together with a conjunction, conjunctive....

A VS AN

Huh?



A A is an article of speech. Articles, at least these, are about sound. A should be used with consonant sounds. "I found a penny." The p in penny is a consonant. "I'd like to go to a concert." C in concert is a consonant.

AN An is an article of speech as well. An, much like A, follows the sound, but of a vowel. "I'm not an animal" A in animal is a vowel. "Can we get an elephant?" E in elephant is a vowel.

YOU'RE & YOUR

Contractions and their antonyms



- YOU'RE** You're is a contraction. Contractions are used to shorten two words, but only in certain circumstances. "You are the light of my life= You're the light of my life." The apostrophe takes the place of are.
- YOUR** Your shows possession and is always followed by a noun. "Here's your bill." "Can I take your coat?"

THEY'RE, THERE, THEIR

Contractions and their antonyms



THEY'RE

They're is a contraction. Contractions are used to shorten two words, but only in certain circumstances. "They are the falling in love= They're falling in love." The apostrophe takes the place of are.

THERE

There is a destination. It is not a person. Nor is it an object. "I'm going over there when I get off." "There she goes!"

THEIR

Just like Your, it is followed by a noun and shows possession. "Is this their cat?"

BROUGHT VS BOUGHT

Bring it on....it's already been broughten



BROUGHT Means to bring something somewhere. "I brought a bottle of wine for the celebration." "I brought apples to go in the pie." "I brought my book with me."

BOUGHT Bought means to purchase. "I bought condoms while I was at the store." "I bought you a diamond ring."